GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3653
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2005
BELOW POVERTY LINE PERSONS
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of BPL persons estimated during Census-2002 are more than those identified during 1999-2000 survey;

(b) if so, whether the Government had taken a decision according to which the number of BPL persons estimated were not to exceed than those identified as per 1999-2000 survey; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Rural Development had issued guidelines to the States/UTs to undertake the BPL Census, 2002 based on door to door survey of all the rural households. The results of the BPL Census 2002 could not be finalized because of the order passed by the Hon`ble Supreme Court of India in a Writ Petition No. 196 of 2001 in the matter of PUCL Vs Union of India. The States/ UTs have been given adequate flexibility to determine the total number of BPL families either equal to the poverty estimates of Planning Commission for the year 1999-2000 or the Adjusted Share worked out by the Planning Commission, whichever is higher. Another 10% flexibility has also been given to the States/UTs to take care of the regional variations.